

ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW IN CALIFORNIA BY ATTORNEYS ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN THE UNITED STATES

The requirements for admission to practice law in California are contained in the *Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California (Rules)*. The following is a summary of the requirements for attorneys who are admitted in another state or jurisdiction of the United States. For the specific requirements, refer to the *Rules*.

To be admitted to practice law in California, an attorney applicant must comply with the requirements outlined in the *Rules*, which include: 1) registration as an attorney applicant; 2) a positive moral character determination; 3) passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; and, 4) passage of the California Bar Examination. Additionally, an applicant must not be certified by the State Department of Social Services as being in non-compliance with a court ordered child or family support obligation. There is no requirement of citizenship or residency.

Attorney applicants admitted in another state or jurisdiction of the United States who have been admitted in active status in good standing four years immediately preceding their application for the examination may elect to take the Attorneys' Examination, which is of two days duration and consists of six essay questions and the two performance test questions from the California Bar Examination. Attorney applicants admitted less than four years, attorneys not in good standing or attorneys not in active status must take the General Bar Examination, which is of three days duration and consists of six essay questions, two performance test questions and a 200 item multiple-choice Multistate Bar Examination portion. Attorneys qualified to take the Attorneys' Examination may choose to take the California Bar Examination instead of the Attorneys' Examination. Attorney applicants must register with the Committee of Bar Examiners on the appropriate form, and pay the required fee, prior to filing an application either to take the California Bar Examination or for a moral character determination, or they may submit the registration form and fee at the same time the first application is filed. Please refer to Rule IV, Sections 1 and 2, Rule V, Section 3 and Rule V111, Section 2 of the *Rules*. A determination regarding an attorney applicant's eligibility to take either the California Bar Examination or Attorneys' Examination will be made based upon submission of a current Certificate of Good Standing from a jurisdiction to which the applicant has been admitted.

The California Bar Examination is administered in February and July of each year. Applications are available upon request in September for the February examination and in February for the July examination. No syllabus or reading list exists; however, various study aids are available to assist in preparation for taking the examination. To receive application forms and materials, an applicant may submit a request on the designated form provided by the State Bar's Office of Admissions or by contacting the Office of Admissions.

The Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) is administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners. For further information regarding this examination contact: THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS, MPRE Application Department, PostOffice Box4001, Iowa City, IA 52243.

For further information, please contact the Office of Admissions in either Los Angeles or San Francisco.